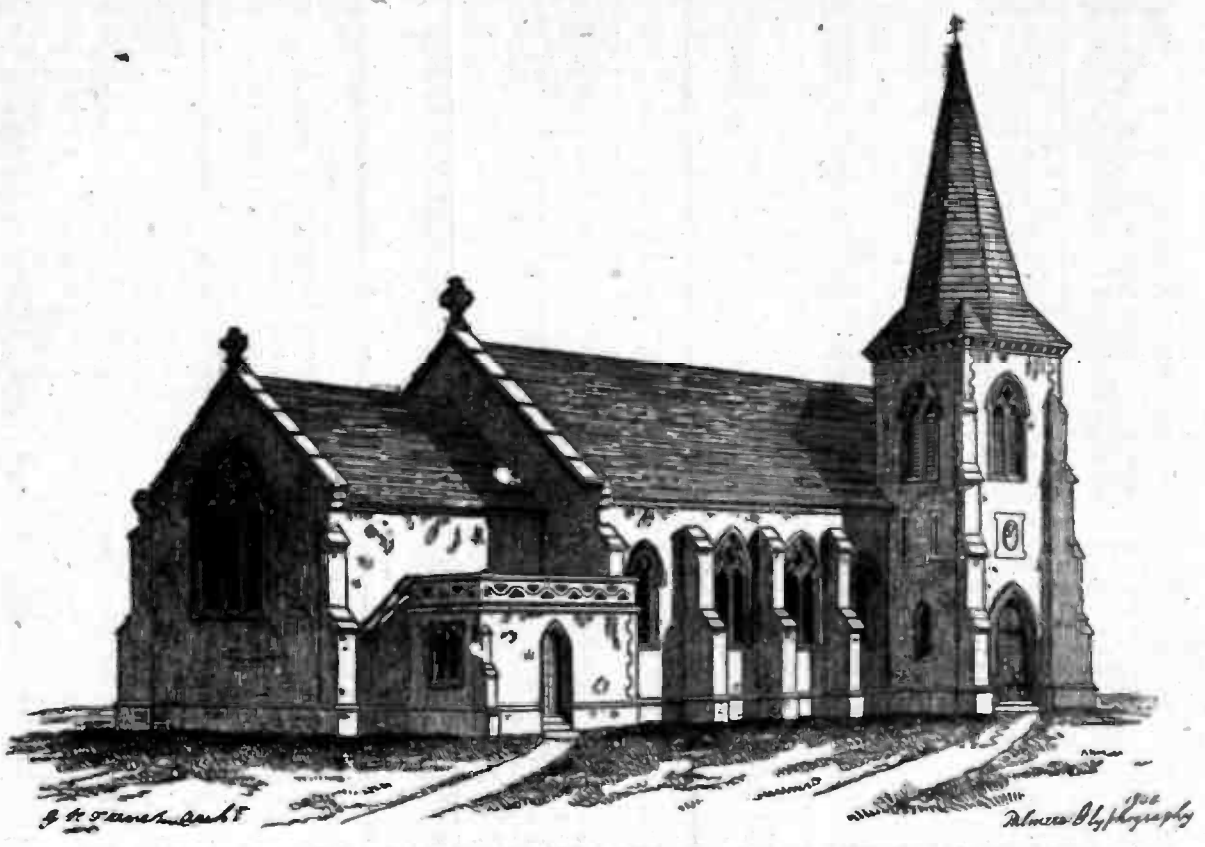

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH, NOW ERECTING FOR THE PARISHES OF LEXDEN AND STANWAY, NEAR COLCHESTER, IN THE COUNTY OF ESSEX,

BY GEORGE RUSSELL FRENCH, Esq., ARCHITECT, LONDON.

This church, of which a perspective view from the north-east is here given, is now in progress of erection, and is intended to accommodate the surplus population of the parishes of Lexden and Stanway, the site of the building being at the boundary of the two parishes, about two miles from Colchester. The style adopted is the late Decorated, which prevailed about the middle of the fourteenth century, in the reign of Edward III. In the church in question the architect did not aim to give the effect of antiquity by means of rubble or flint-work at the risk of the stability of the building but, as our ancestors generally did of old, employed those materials which were nearest at hand; the walls, therefore, are constructed of bricks, in some cases having three bricks in thickness and in others two-and-a-half bricks; the facing-bricks are of a dark purplish red character, making a contrast to the window and other dressings, which are of Caen stone. The nave, which is 60 feet long and 24 feet 6 inches wide, has an entrance on the north from a tower, and also from the west doorway, in which are introduced "nook-shafts." Above the west door is a window of three lights, the head having a great deal of tracery. On each side of the nave, which is divided into six bays, are two single-light and two double-light windows, having dripstones or hood-moulds over them, those on the north side (being that most seen) resting on carved heads. The buttresses between the windows have a projection of 2 feet 6 inches. The nave is divided from the chancel by an arch, and the latter, which is raised two steps, is 25 feet by 14 feet, the sacrarium being elevated three steps. The chancel is lighted by an east window of three lights, and by a single-light window on the south side. The entrance to the vestry from the chancel is by a small arch near the chancel-arch, and by which access is also had to a stone pulpit projecting from the wall; on the south side of the nave, a small transept is carried out for an organ, of the depth to which a future aisle may be added, arches being inserted on the south side to facilitate such an addition. The height of the walls from the ground-line will, when finished, be only 18 feet; but the roof having a very high pitch, being at an angle of 38 degrees, will make the interior sufficiently lofty. The belfry tower, 10 feet square, is constructed to contain a peal of five bells, and is 35 feet high, crowned by a spire of 30 feet additional height, covered with oak shingles, and surmounted by a copper weather-cock. The roof, covered with slates, will be open, shewing the entire construction, the timbers and slate-boarding being planed smooth, stained, and polished. From the steepness of the roof, the tie-beams are not continued, being only hammer-beams, supported by trefoiled spandrils resting on stone corbels, and having moulded curved ribs, collars, and purlins, with king-heads introduced, and the braces above the collars trefoiled. On each side of the east window is a slab of stone, on which the Decalogue will be cut in plain Roman capital letters, so that the people may best "see and read the same," as the canon directs. Above each table of stone will be a trefoiled canopy, the back diapered. Within the chancel, glazed encaustic tiles, from Chamberlain's Worcester Manufactory, will be laid down; the four Evangelists, emblems of the Trinity, the cross, &c., within a border of trefoiled pattern, occupying the space within the rails; and the path up to the steps having the arms of the benefactors towards the endowment of the church. The font will be of carved stone, with appropriate devices in each of its octagonal sides, and with a *drain*. The fittings will be of deal or of sycamore, consisting of low benches, with finials and carved panels in their ends. Not a particle of paint will be used inside the church, excepting to the iron-work of the roof; the whole of the fittings being stained and polished like the roof. The body of the nave will be paved with tiles. The whole external length of the building is 91 feet, and its width from north to south is 42 feet. The cost of the church will be under 1,700*l.*, and it is calculated to hold 300 persons, 20 inches in width for each adult being allowed.

TIMBER—ITS TREATMENT AND USES.

BY JAMES WYLSON.

(*Continued from p. 472.*)

91. Elm.—There are in Great Britain several species of this tree:—the small, or rough-leaved common *English elm;* the smooth-leaved, or *Wych-elm;* the broad-leaved, or *Wych-hazel;* the *Dutch elm;* the cork-barked, declining-branched, spreading-flowered, white elm, and others; with some more recently introduced—the Huntingdon, Chichester, fan-leaved, &c. That particularly designated as the English elm is common in the south, and is, in respect of size and beauty, a tree of the first rank; in utility, it is perhaps excelled by the Wych-elm, the wood of which is generally, of all the elm-species, the most esteemed; the trunk of the former is frequently crooked and rugged, the bark rough, having a cracked and wrinkled appearance; the leaves are doubly-serrated: it is comparatively slow in growth, but hard and durable, and notable for its excellence in resisting moisture; it is thought to be probably an exotic, from the circumstance of its seeds never ripening in this country: its propagation being by suckers, which spring in abundance from the old roots, rendering the tree very eligible for hedge-rows, a constant succession being insured, wherever it has been planted, however often the grown timber be felled; in situations where the appearance of suckers would be objectionable, it is propagated by grafting on the Wych-elm: it is also raised from layers. The Wych-elm is common in Herefordshire, Essex, and the north and north-eastern counties of England, and grows to the